

A Legacy Worth Preserving...

Nearly 44% of Tennessee's 26 million acres is in farm production. However, only a small amount of that is in what one would consider a family farm like where many of us grew up.

The family farm is a legacy worth preserving.

The Tennessee Farmland Legacy Partnership is a vital resource to achieve that goal. The partnership seeks to provide information and assistance and to encourage both farm and community planning that promotes the preservation and viability of working farms in Tennessee.

Finding balance among competing land uses in our communities is essential to the future of Tennessee's economy, health and quality of life. Each year, Tennessee tragically loses an average of 1,300 family farms and 100,000 acres of farmland.

Made up of twelve organizations including state government agencies and non-profit organizations, the Tennessee Farmland Legacy Partnership pursues the goal of farmland preservation in many ways.

These include promoting Agri-tourism, local farmer's markets and apprenticeship programs that allow Tennesseans not blessed with family ties to the land a way to become farmers.

The partnership also gives vital assistance to existing farms with estate planning, assistance with hunting leases and tourism to provide a non-traditional income source as well as bolstering the network of farmer's markets across the state.

Healthy, productive family-owned farms are an important part of the sustainable use of Tennessee's land and help to secure safe and dependable sources of food, fiber and fuel for future generations.

The Tn. Department of Environment and Conservation advocates a comprehensive watershed approach to promote quality growth statewide while balancing urban and rural land use.

The Tennessee Farmland Legacy Partnership is a vital part of that approach.



Facts about the Tennessee Farmland Legacy Partnership

Working to preserve the family farm in Tennessee.

- Made up of 12 state government agencies, academic and non-profit organizations.
- Over 100 farmers, landowners, community planners, and other stakeholders attended the 2012 Farmland Legacy Conference in Burns, TN at Montgomery Bell State Park.



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Office of Sustainable Practices
www.tn.gov/environment/osp